

Customer Number

24024

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Shlaes et al.)	Examiner:	Ehichioya
)		
Serial No.:	10/628,884)	Group Art Unit:	2162
)		
Filed:	July 28, 2003)	Confirmation No.:	3865
)		
For:	METHOD AND SYSTEM)	Attorney Docket No.:	23688.04164
	OF UNIFYING DATA)		

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

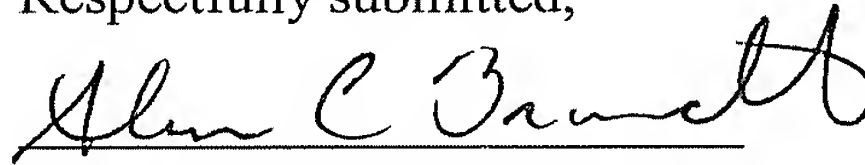
Ladies and Gentlemen:

The applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication as to the allowance of the present application. However, the applicants respectfully submit that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance are, in and of themselves, inappropriate. It is noted that reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which "the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear his or her reasons for allowing a claim or claims." (37 CFR §1.104(e)). In the present case, the applicants believe the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and, therefore, no statement by the USPTO is necessary or warranted.

Furthermore, the applicants do not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance. For example, it has been indicated that the claims are allowed by importing interpretations into the claims in relation to the prior art that results in a potential imprecise and/or inaccurate understanding of the reasons. This places an unwarranted interpretation upon the claims. Such a characterization of the claims does not properly take into account the claimed invention as reflected in the specification and responses to Office Actions. Therefore, while the applicants believe the claims are allowable, the applicants do not acquiesce that patentability resides in only the features, exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability.

Date: 25 September 2007

Respectfully submitted,



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